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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who speaks in the winds' whispers, enable our lawmakers to hear Your call above the many voices of the world. Grant that the claims of labor, the attractions of ambition, or the cares of this world may not make them fail to hear You speak. Lord, give them the wisdom to obey You promptly, refusing to put off until tomorrow the decisions they ought to make today. Cleanse them from any lack of discipline which would keep them from making the efforts which obedience demands. Honor their obedience by permitting them to share in Your glory. May their example of faithfulness and patriotism raise up a new generation of Americans who will love You and country.

We pray in Your loving Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TOM UDALL led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, October 14, 2009.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Following leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business. It will be for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each during that time. The majority will control the first 30 minutes and Republicans will control the final 30 minutes. Following morning business, the Senate will proceed to consideration of the conference report to accompany the Energy and Water appropriations bill, H.R. 3183. Under the previous order, there will be 10 minutes for debate equally divided and controlled between the managers of the bill. I ask unanimous consent that there also be 10 minutes under the control of Senator COBURN and that the provisions under the previous order notwithstanding remain in effect.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Upon the use or yielding back of the 20 minutes for debate, the Senate will proceed to a cloture vote on the Energy and Water appropriations conference report. That vote is expected before noon today. The Senate will recess from 12:30 until 2:15 to allow for the weekly caucus luncheons. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1776

Mr. REID. Mr. President, S. 1776 is at the desk and due for a second reading; is that correct?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1776) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the update under the Medicare physician fee schedule for years beginning with 2010 and to sunset the application of the sustainable growth rate formula, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

FALLEN POLICE OFFICER MILBURN BEITEL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I was a police officer during the time I was going to law school. I worked at night time. I have some knowledge of law enforcement. My brother Larry was a long-time officer for the sheriff's department in Las Vegas. That has now been

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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